



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1436

DATE: October 23, 2014

TO: Iowa Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Providers, Targeted Case Managers and Department of Human Services (DHS) Service Workers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: HCBS Settings Transition Plan Public Comment Period

This is an update to [Informational Letter No. 1383](#)¹. In January 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published regulations to better define the settings in which states can provide Medicaid HCBS. The final rule became effective March 17, 2014. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that individuals receive Medicaid HCBS in settings that are integrated in and support full access to the greater community. The regulations will also ensure that members have a choice in where they live and who provides their services.

The transition plan for the Intellectual Disability (ID) waiver was submitted to CMS on August 27, 2014. The plan incorporates changes based on the public comment period held in May 2014.

The IME must now submit transition plans for each of the remaining six waiver programs, as well as a statewide transition plan. The IME has prepared draft versions of all of these transition plans available for public comment from November 1, 2014, through November 30, 2014. The plans are posted on the [Home and Community Based Services \(HCBS\)](#) webpage² along with other related documents. These materials are also being distributed to provider associations, consumer advocacy organizations and other potentially interested stakeholders.

Comments on the draft transition plans should be submitted in writing to: HCBSsettings@dhs.state.ia.us. All comments will be reviewed, summarized, and responses developed. Appropriate suggestions will be incorporated into the transition plans and responses to public comments will be posted on the DHS website.

In order to collect additional comments, stakeholder forums will also be held via a series of webinars during the month of November. Specific dates and times will be posted on the DHS website.

Please submit any questions to HCBSsettings@dhs.state.ia.us.

¹<http://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/1383%20HCBS%20Settings%20Transition%20Plan%20Public%20Comment%20Period.pdf>

²<http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/about/initiatives/HCBS>